

Fall is just around the corner and prime brewing season is coming up. Time to break out the kettle and make some great brews. Start looking ahead to some fall and winter events.

BJCP Classes / Exams

Washington has been working on building up its BJCP judge population and has 6 exams on the upcoming calendar. The first exam is on Oct 23rd which is completely full, but preparation classes are going on in the North Sound and [South Sound](#) right now. While you may not be able to get in on the October exam, you can start studying now by joining one of the classes.

Just contact

[Mike Brown](#) or [Mark](#)

[Emiley](#)

for more details. The South Sound class is webcasting their sessions (Tuesday nights) and you can view the recorded series or tune in here (

[video series](#)

) Another exam is scheduled for December 11th. This exam is also currently full but there is a short waiting list.

Four more exams are scheduled in early 2011. There will be an exam in Bellingham on February 19th (also full) with some preparation classes in the area (details will be posted here when available). **The next exams with spots available are a Mead Exam in Seattle on**

March 12th (contact

[Mark Emiley](#)),

a beer exam in Seattle in April

(contact

[Mark Tanner](#)), and a [beer](#)

[exam in Yakima](#)

on May 7th (most spots reserved for Eastern Washington residents - contact

[Steve Antoch](#)

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Given the very high demand for exams and limitations on exam scheduling, we are having to book exams further and further out. If you have a group that may be interested in having an exam near you, please contact us and we can help you get rolling!

[Homebrewer Fresh Hop Ale Competition](#)

Enter YOUR homebrewed Fresh Hop Ale in our BJCP competition for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place homebrew Fresh Hop Ale. The brews will be judged Saturday, September 25th, and we

will reveal the top 3 winners on Saturday night (10/02/2010) at the festival, where the winners will be recognized, awarded a plaque and homebrewing supplies!

HOME BREW FRESH HOP ALE (FHA) ENTRY CRITERIA:

- Your entry must fall into the Pale Ale to IPA category
- We are looking for beers in the 40 to 120 IBU range and 5 to 15 SRM color range.
- Your entry must include 100% flavor and aroma hops from the 2010 harvest year. They can be commercially grown or homegrown but are not to be processed through kiln drying. Bittering hops do not fall into this rule.
- New! You must submit only three (3) 12oz. bottles of FHA. No growlers.
- Only one (1) entry per contestant will be accepted. Bring us your best effort!

HOW TO ENTER: [Complete details here](#)

Important Dates

- Beer Delivery Deadline: Wednesday, September 22, 2010 by 2:30pm
- Judging: Saturday, September 25, 2010
- Festival & Awards: Saturday, October 2, 2010

[Washington Mead and Cider Clinic and Cup](#)

Once again, the WAHA and Impaling Alers will be running a Mead and Cider Clinic and Cup, this year all in one day! In the morning of Saturday, October 16th, we'll be holding a mead and cider judging clinic. All judges are encouraged to come down to learn more about judging these fermented beverage. Then in the afternoon, we'll kick off judging of the Mead and Cider Cup (described below).

Enter the 2010 Washington Mead & Cider Cup: Washington's 2nd Annual Mead and Cider only competition, brought to you by the Impaling Alers on behalf of the Washington Homebrewers

Written by Mark Emiley

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Association. All Meads, Ciders, and Perries will be accepted as defined by the 2008 BJCP Guidelines for categories 24 – 28. (This is a [WHOTY Qualifier](#)).

- Entry Fee: \$6 per entry – Checks made payable to Larry's Brewing Supply
(2) 10-12 oz or (1) 750 mm corked or capped bottle per entry
- Entries Due: September 28th – October 12th, 2010
- Ship to / Drop Off: Larry's Brewing Supply (Closed Sun & Mon)
7405 S 212th St. #103
Kent, WA 98032

BJCP Judging will be held on Saturday October 16th, 2010 at Larry's Brewing Supply (address above). Cork finished petillant and sparkling entries should have a crown cap or wire cage as well. Entries of (1) 10-12 oz bottle will be accepted, but may not advance to the BOS judging if an insufficient sample remains.

Complete [details here](#) . Bring out Washington's best meads and ciders!

Novemberfest

It isn't too late to start brewing some batches for the final [WHOTY Qualifier](#) of 2010, Novemberfest. Novemberfest will be held on November 6th at Larry's Brewing Supply in Kent. Details are being finalized and will be posted at www.impalingalers.org . Good luck!

AHA Club-Only Competition - Strong Ales

Back in March, the Impaling Ales hosted the Session Challenge AHA Club Only Competition which was the largest AHA COC ever and was won by Washington's own Jonathan Powell (BREW). This December Washington will play host to another AHA COC when GEBL hosts and features Strong Ales.

Entries are due November 30, 2010 and judging will be held December 4, 2010. Entry fee is \$7. Make checks payable to American Homebrewers Association.

Entry Shipping:

AHA COC

Armour Unsderfer Engineering

13456 SE 27th Pl, Suite 200

Bellevue, WA 98005

Hosted by Jim Brischke and the Greater Everett Brewers League of Everett, WA, this competition covers BJCP Category 19 styles. For more information, contact [Jim Brischke](#). Let's make it another terrific Washington showing!!!

Great Summer Wrap-Up

This summer had some wonderful homebrew events. Beerstock 5060-2 was a tremendous celebration of Washington's homebrew culture and club spirit. Thanks again to the Joy's for organizing another fantastic event. The Lakewood Rotary Homebrew Festival was another great exhibition of over 100 homemade concoctions. Thanks to Brandon Horn for his tireless work on the festival. Fair organizers all around the state are wrapping up their homebrew competitions so get out to your local fair and find out your best competitors in your area.

After such great showings this year throughout the community, we can look ahead to another great summer next year. Every great event needs helpers and organizers. Beerstock 5060 is looking for some new organizers and a new location (interested in helping? [Contact the Joys](#)).

Next year's NHC will be down in San Diego and we'll be looking to make a showing down there. Start planning ahead and get involved today. Talk with your

[club](#)

or

[contact the WAHA](#)

to help out!